

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...is good advice, and the court can ignore it with impunity.

SPEAKER BAACK: Is there anyone else wishing to discuss the amendment? Seeing no one, Senator Wickersham, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Just very briefly, Senator Chambers has pointed out, I think, one valid consideration and that is to allow the court enough flexibility to still schedule itself in an efficient manner but still carry out the intent of the amendment, which is quite simply and clearly, and I wish to state this expressly for the record, that this court shall not hold hearings exclusively in the City of Lincoln. It is clearly the intent of the amendment and I believe it was Senator Kristensen's intent in the original bill as introduced that hearings of this court would be held throughout the state. And, again, the intention in the amendment is to allow the court enough administrative flexibility to carry out that intent without inefficiencies in the court system, itself.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. We will now proceed to vote on the Wickersham amendment. All those in favor will vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on Senator Wickersham's amendment. All those in favor vote aye. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Wickersham's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend. (Read FA53 on page 1115 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is an amendment which would require that this very serious offense carrying a heavy punishment, the possibility of life imprisonment, should be one of those categories which is guaranteed an appeal to the State Supreme Court. Senator Kristensen, as the bill currently is drafted, indicates that cases carrying a life sentence or the death penalty would have a guaranteed appeal to the Supreme Court. But I think a set of